

## **Amendment to the Claims**

### **LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS**

Claim 1. (Original) A wound dressing comprising:

an absorbent core having opposed proximal and distal surfaces including central and border portions;

a discrete skin adherent, elastomeric gel facing layer having a distal surface secured to the proximal surface of the absorbent core, said facing layer having a plurality of through extending apertures arranged in a pattern; and

a discrete pressure sensitive adhesive layer applied to the facing layer on at least a segment of a proximal surface thereof.

Claim 2. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of apertures of the facing layer are generally located along a central portion thereof corresponding to the central portion of the absorbent core.

Claim 3. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 2, wherein a border portion of the facing layer generally corresponding to the border portion of the absorbent core is substantially free of said apertures.

Claim 4. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is located along at least one segment of a border portion of the facing layer corresponding to the border portion of the absorbent core.

Claim 5. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 4, wherein the adhesive layer is applied to at least two opposed sides of the border portion of the facing layer.

Claim 6. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer has greater skin adherence properties than the elastomeric gel of the facing layer.

Claim 7. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is only applied near the peripheral border of the facing layer.

Claim 8. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the apertures of the facing layer are provided only at a central portion of the facing layer corresponding to a central portion of the absorbent core, said adhesive layer is applied in a region bordering the central portion of the facing layer.

Claim 9. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is generally apertured.

Claim 10. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is an acrylate glue.

Claim 11. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is a silicone gel sprayed onto the facing layer.

Claim 12. (Original) A wound dressing consisting:

a discrete skin adherent, elastomeric gel facing layer having distal and proximal surfaces, said facing layer having a plurality of through extending apertures arranged in a pattern; and

a discrete pressure sensitive adhesive layer applied to the facing layer on at least a segment of a proximal surface thereof.

Claim 13. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 12, wherein the adhesive layer is located along at least one segment of a border portion of the facing layer.

Claim 14. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 13, wherein the adhesive layer is applied to at least two opposed sides of the border portion of the facing layer.

Claim 15. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 12, wherein the adhesive layer has greater skin adherence properties than the elastomeric gel of the facing layer.

Claim 16. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 12, wherein the adhesive layer is only applied around a peripheral border of the facing layer.

Claim 17. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 12, wherein the apertures of the facing layer are provided only at a central portion of the facing layer, said adhesive layer is applied in a region bordering the central portion of the facing layer.

Claim 18. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 12, wherein the adhesive layer is generally apertured.

Claim 19. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 12, wherein the proximal surface of the facing layer is generally planar.

Claim 20. (Original) The wound dressing according to claim 12, wherein the distal surface of the facing layer is generally planar.

Claim 21. (New) A wound dressing comprising:

an absorbent core having opposed proximal and distal surfaces including central and border portions;

a facing layer comprising cross-linked silicone and having a distal surface directly secured to the proximal surface of the absorbent core, said facing layer having a plurality of through extending apertures arranged in a pattern; and

a discrete pressure sensitive adhesive layer applied to the facing layer on at least a segment of a proximal surface thereof.

Claim 22. (New) The wound dressing according to claim 21, wherein the pressure sensitive adhesive layer does not occlude the apertures of the facing layer.

Claim 23. (New) The wound dressing according to claim 21, wherein the apertures of the facing layer are substantially equally spaced and generally uniform in shape.

Claim 24. (New) A wound dressing comprising:

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an absorbent core having opposed proximal and distal surfaces including central and border portions;

a discrete skin adherent, elastomeric gel facing layer having a distal surface directly secured to at least a portion of the proximal surface of the absorbent core, said facing layer having a plurality of through extending apertures arranged in a pattern; and

a discrete pressure sensitive adhesive layer applied to at least a portion of the absorbent core.